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# ARE THE JEWS A MENACE TO CIVILIZATION?



THE CHARACTER OF THE  
JEW EXPLAINED



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1881

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE JEWS

*Are the Jews a Menace to Civilization?*

The story of the Jewish people is one of the saddest chapters in the history of mankind. For two thousand years, to the shame and disgrace of the gentile world, their sufferings have justly entitled them to be regarded as a martyr people.

Denied a nation of their own, scattered over the earth and dwelling unwelcome in the lands of strangers, their hearts now encouraged, now depressed by the exiles dream of home, they have borne every insult, endured every calumny, experienced every outrage, while myriads have died by violence at the hands of assassins in massacres that have shamed the heavens, victims always of religious and racial intolerance that has ever expressed itself in "Man's Inhumanity to Man."

If there is anything to be said in extenuation of this long continued cruelty, it is that until recently the world was ignorant and superstitious and that those who persecuted the Jews were themselves in many ways the victims of oppression.



In Germany, the flames of anti-Semitism have, since the war, broken out in numerous places. There have been demands that the Jews be excluded from the universities; that they be eliminated from the economic life of the nation; that they be expelled from the country and their property confiscated. There have been deportations of Jews; and Jews have been attacked by mobs, at whose hands they have, in many instances, suffered violence.

In this country the libellous Protocols have been made to justify the vicious campaign of Jew-baiting that has been carried on for nearly two years by *Natzis*.

We have seen that it is impossible to tell from external evidence where or with whom the Protocols has rather increased than lessened the old tremendous importance where the honor of a race is outrageously impugned. Let me now call your attention to another singular and significant fact. Every editor of the Protocols, no matter where they have been published, has hidden behind anonymity. Likewise, the articles which have appeared in the *London Morning Post* are anonymous. A mighty international crusade against the integrity—yea, against the very sanity—of a people to whom civilization owes an

incalculable debt, is being carried on by cowardly wretches who dare not give their names to the world. The assassin who shot down President McKinley approached his unsuspecting victim with his gun concealed in a handkerchief; and the anti-Jewish writers who would assassinate the good name of a worthy people mask their personal responsibility behind the impenetrable veil of anonymity. The attacks of these intellectual gunmen, these fomenters of race hatred, are signed by that very impersonal gentleman—"Mr. Nobody!"

The Protocols charge that the Jews and the Freemasons are assiduously engaged in the work of compassing the downfall of civilization, in order to arrogate to themselves the complete domination of a re-fashioned world. To this end, the press must be poisoned; all respect for civil and religious authority must be destroyed; revolutionary movements of every kind must be fostered; wars must be fomented; antagonisms between capital and labor must be encouraged; the people must be blinded and deceived with false political and economic theories; bribery and blackmail must be employed to corrupt and discredit statesmen and other responsible public servants—in a word, the whole intellectual, po-

litical, religious, economic and social life of society must be undermined and dislocated to that degree that the world, tottering over the abyss of ruin and realizing its dire helplessness, will have to call upon Jewish organizing genius and Jewish financiers to give the nations a sound Jewish regime—a regime in which a descendant of King David will sit upon the world's throne and in which Judaism will be the only religion of mankind.

A program so cynical in its total disregard of every principle of right, so utterly impossible of achievement, so audaciously and magnificently absurd, was never before given to the world. In comparison with such a program, the vaporings of religious fanaticism are as the obvious conclusions of philosophy. The scheme has the swoop and stroke of the dime novel, in which imagination's grotesque shapes, divorced from the prosaic realities of life, thrill the swift emotions of callow youth. As an irresponsible satire on ambition, cruel and defamatory as it is, it might merit a passing thought; but as a program to be seriously considered, as the statement of an actual menace to the organized life of the world, it is a scheme as thoroughly insane as the most disordered vision any drooling idiot

ever dreamed.

"If there is no deliberate combination of Jews in the world, then the control which they have achieved and the uniformity of the policies which they follow must be the simple result, not of deliberate decisions, but of a similar nature in all of them working out the same way."

In other words, if the Jews are not all conspirators, scheming to bring about universal chaos, then as a people they possess a high average of aptitude for success in the activities in which they severally engage. There being no evidence whatever favoring the former view and much in support of the latter, common sense counsels, not that we attribute to these people a criminal intent, but that we credit them with their full share of business acumen.

But if the Jews are not planning to conquer the world, what shall we regard as the source and purpose of the libellous Protocols? The answer to this question is found in the circumstantial evidence which points to an entirely sound conclusion. The Protocols were first published in 1905, the year of a popular revolution in Russia. In that year, be it remembered, the Russian bureaucracy made every effort to crush



the Jews and at the same time sought to prevent the liberalization of the government. An examination of the Protocols reveals the glaring fact that they were written to bolster up an assailed autocracy. There is every reason to believe that they originated with the Russian secret police or the Czar's Black Hundreds—the relentless enemies of every sentiment of democratic freedom, the destroyers of those who yearned to bring to their country the beneficent light of progress—and that their purpose was to discredit in advance all progressive movements, while making the Jews responsible for the unrest which sought redress from a crushing bureaucratic tyranny. There was something in the heart of the Jew that could not be stamped out even by Czarism. In every movement that made for liberty—that glorious ideal that has ever lured the noblest on—the Jews were always well represented. In spite of pressing restrictions, "their genius has enabled them to attain a degree of power which has completely baffled the Russian mind." The Russian Government's agents must therefore bring opprobrium upon the Jews. This could be accomplished by a simple device. It could be made to appear that they were the enemies of all established order, and that, to win power for

themselves, they sought the overthrow of governments everywhere.

The Protocols themselves clearly support this view, for their contents plainly show that they were written in the interest of autocracy. They condemn political freedom; they violently attack liberal policies in government; they uphold special privilege and autocracy; they disparage education; they condemn religious liberty; they denounce the French Revolution—the greatest liberalizing movement of the modern world—and heap contempt upon its great soul-stirring dogmas of liberty, equality and fraternity. To say that the Jews, a people who have suffered every persecution at the hands of autocratic governments, a people who prize liberty, education and enlightened ideals as highly as any other people in the world—to say that these people could be in favor of autocracy and opposed to liberty, education and forward-looking policies and ideals, is to insult, not only every Jew, but also every Gentile who has even a suggestion of intelligence.

It is worthy of note, too, that a passage which appeared in the original Russian edition of the Protocols, and which identified the English people as a part of the Jewish race, and repre-

sented the British Government as being in league with the Jews in the conspiracy to conquer the world, has been significantly omitted from every English and American translation. Had that passage appeared in the English speaking world it would have provoked a smile, in whose light nothing else in the forged documents could have been taken seriously. No thoughtful person would have been impressed with the claim that the Angles, the Jutes, the Saxons, the Danes, the Normans and the others that now make up the English people are really Jews in disguise, or that England is at all interested in ruining herself by destroying the civilization of the world.

During the Middle Ages, the Jews were not permitted to own or even to lease land. The agricultural life was, therefore, denied them. They were compelled to live in cities, where, in order to gain a livelihood, they engaged in business pursuits. Therefore, whatever business genius they have as a people today, is largely the accumulated result of training through centuries of business experience.

The Jews have carried and promoted trade around the globe, and wherever they have gone prosperity and civilization have thrived and

blossomed in their train. The only prosperity Spain has ever known since she destroyed the civilization of the Saracens, was due to the Jews. When Spain expelled the Jews, in 1492, her commercial importance suddenly declined, and the vantage ground then lost has never been regained. The same decline of prosperity was experienced by Italy and Portugal when the Jews migrated from those countries northward. But with the appearance of the Jews in Holland, the prosperity of that little kingdom moved forward with mighty strides. And Germany and England, each in her measure, came by the same experience. The German cities that expelled the Jews, declined in importance. Hamburg and Frankfort received them and became thriving business centers. In France, Marseilles, Bordeaux and Rouen rose to conspicuous prosperity only after they had opened their doors to the Jews. In Odessa, today, where the Jews number forty-five per cent of the population, they transact ninety-five per cent of the trade. And when we come to America, we are told by Sir John Foster Fraser, in his splendid book on "The Isabella sold her jewels to make the expedition possible is a late fiction. And the astronomical charts and nautical instruments



which guided Conquering Jew," that "the astounding rise of the United States is largely due to the Jews." Everywhere history records the same phenomenon—the Jew is a builder of business, and business is life.

It may be well enough to remember, too, that it was the Jews who discovered America. Columbus, on the side of his mother, Susanna Fonterossa, was of Jewish descent. It was a Jew, Louis de Santangel, who financed Columbus' voyage across the Atlantic—the pretty story about the Queen, had been made by Jews. The first white man to set foot on American soil was Luis de Torres, a Jew. And the first business men America knew were Spanish Jews.

In the Revolutionary War, the cause of independence was very materially served by many Jews, but by one particularly, Hyam Solomon, who gave his entire fortune to the cause of freedom.

The department stores and nearly all the great financial enterprises of this country were started by Jews.

The Jews have given the world more men of ability in proportion to their numbers than have come from any other race. This is due to the

fact that genius is more frequently found in the Jewish than in the Gentile mind. Denied political rights until a few generations ago, the Jews have, in England, in modern times, adorned the House of Commons, the House of Lords, the Privy Council. Disraeli, the Jewish Prime Minister of England, has been mentioned. Five of the Lord Mayors of London have been Jews.

Many able American Jews have served, and a score or more now serve, in the American Congress. One of the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States, Judge Brandeis, is a Jew.

In the politics and jurisprudence of other countries, Jews have carried on with distinction. "The three greatest international lawyers of modern times—Jellinck of Germany, Leon-Caen of France, and Asser of Holland—are all Jews." Of the Jews who have come to this country from Russia, there are in New York City alone four hundred dentists, five hundred lawyers, five hundred physicians, one thousand druggists, and seventy-five thousand skilled laborers. Among America's most eminent physicians must be named two Jews, the late Abraham Jacobi, of New York, and Jacob Solis Cohen, of Philadelphia.

In the arts and sciences, in philosophy and statesmanship, Jewish ability may, without hesitation, place its products beside those of Gentile genius. Mendelssohn and Wagner, two of the world's greatest composers, were Jews. Spinoza, one of the subtlest thinkers among philosophers, was a Jew. Henri Bergson, the extremely popular philosopher of intuition, is half Jew. So was Leon Gambetta, who did more than any other man to create the present French republic. Heinrich Heine, one of the world's foremost masters of literature, was a Jew.

For a hundred years, America has looked to the Jews for music, and to the Jews largely belongs the credit for introducing grand opera into this country. Perhaps the greatest of modern actresses, a woman who, for sixty years, filled the spacious stage with the glory of her interpretative genius, Sarah Bernhardt, is at least half Jewish.

Jews excel in all branches of education. Jewish parents make every sacrifice to educate their children, and the universities of the world are crowded with Jewish students. Half of the students at Columbia University are Jews. And in all great institutions of learning there is a large representation of Jewish professors.

It was Dr. Zamenhof, a Russian Jew, who invented Esperanto, the modern universal language.

The kindergarten, as a system of leading the child mind through the first steps in education, was devised by Joseph Wertheimer, a Jew.

The practice of having trained nurses visit our public schools in the interest of the children's health—that beneficent departure in modern education—was started by a Jewish woman, Miss Lillian Wald.

In works of philanthropy, the Jews may well be proud of their achievements. In New York City alone they have nine hospitals, twelve homes for the aged, and fifteen orphan asylums. They have more than six hundred such institutions for the care of the needy and the suffering throughout the United States. The Mount Zion Hospital, at San Francisco, the only free non-sectarian hospital in California, is a Jewish institution. The principal hospital at Natal, during the South African war, was equipped by Mr. Msoeley, a Jew. Jews have given millions of dollars to hospitals, schools and universities, and for the promotion of every high intellectual and moral purpose.



The following examples, selected from last year's lengthy list, will illustrate the nature and extent of Jewish philanthropy. Mrs. Minnie Freiberg Ransohoff, of Cincinnati, gave the University of Cincinnati \$25,000 for a Chair in Surgical Anatomy. Louis B. Kuppenheimer, of Winnetka, Ill., gave his community \$50,000 to improve school conditions. Julius Rosenwald, of Chicago, contributed \$50,000 to the Hoover Fund for the Starving Children of Eastern Europe. Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Rosenbloom, of Pittsburgh, donated \$100,000 to charities.\*

There is no drunkenness among the Jews, and the percentage of criminality is remarkably low among them. Forty years ago, Robert G. Ingersoll, one of America's greatest lawyers, said that Jews appeared in court, charged with serious crimes, less frequently than any other people. The same fact holds good today. It is very seldom that a Jewish woman is found among the unfortunate women of the street. No parents are kinder to their children than are the Jews. As to this particular, the following testimony is impressive. In the year 1912, Mr. G. R. Simms, an Englishman, wrote:

\* "American Jewish Year Book," Vol. 23, 1921.

"In the official report of the N. S. P. C. C. for last year, it is stated that 156,637 children were involved in the cases of cruelty, and of this terrible total 154,387 were related to the offenders. . . . In spite of the vast hordes of Jewish aliens who pour into this country every year, a case of cruelty to children is hardly ever found in a Jewish home. So far as I have been able to ascertain, child torture seems to be a form of barbarity entirely confined to Christian people. What is the answer of our churches and our chapels to this indictment?"\*

The Jew has no reason to be ashamed, either of what his race is or of what it has done, and the world will not lose, but rather gain, as Jewish influence increasingly stamps its mark upon advancing civilization. For many centuries, the Jew has been frowned upon and persecuted by the Christian world, because Christians have ever believed that the ancestors of the Jews, two thousand years ago, crucified the Son of God. This idea has colored every phase of the Christian attitude towards the Jews. Forgetting that according to their religion, Christ had to die to save the world from everlasting pain, Christians

\* Quoted by Hypatia Bradlaugh Bonner in "Christianity and Conduct."

cherished a hostility towards the Jews whose forefathers, as they thought, made it possible for them to enjoy the endless bliss of heaven. And down deep under Mr. Hitler's anti-Jewish campaign and all other anti-Semitic propaganda, the embers of this absurd state of mind still burn with more or less vigor.

But today, when every idea Christianity contains is found to be paralleled in the older Oriental religions; when the idea of the death of a virgin-born God is known to be one of the world's oldest religious myths, the pious belief that the Jews murdered Christ is rapidly fading from the intelligent mind. As time goes on, religion is becoming less and less important as a factor in the life of mankind. Reason and science are becoming more and more the directing forces of thought. Both Judaism and Christianity are melting into a common humanity. And as religious prejudice disappears, the Jew and the Gentile will come increasingly to recognize one another as friends, fellow workers and equal partners in the common interests of life.

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